Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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FOLLOWING REPEAT QUITO 7682 SENT SECSTATE DATED NOV 12.

QUOTE

CONFIDENTIAL QUITO 7682

DEPTO 41

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: OCON, OAS CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT: PROPOSED INGERSOLL EXPLANATION OF VOTE FOR QUITO

BEGIN QUOTE MR. CHAIRMAN, DISTINGUISHED FOREIGN MINISTERS AND SPECIAL DELEGATES:

WE HAVE REMAINED SILENT PRIOR TO THE VOTE BECAUSE WE WISHED TO AVOID EVEN THE APPEARANCE OF INFLUENCING BY OUR REMARKS OR BY OUR ACTIONS THE OUTCOME OF THIS MEETING OF CONSULTATION. NOW, I THINK A WORD IN EXPLANATION OF OUR VOTE IS IN ORDER.

AS MOST OF YOU ARE AWARE, THE UNITED STATES WAS INITIALLY OPPOSED TO A REVIEW OF RESOLUTION I AT THIS TIME. WE WERE PERSUADED BY OTHER NATIONS THAT THE ISSUE SHOULD BE DISCUSSED. WE VOTED FOR THE CONVOCATION OF THIS MEETING. AND WE HAVE CAREFULLY ATTENDED THESE SESSIONS AND CONSIDERED THE STATEMENTS OF EACH OF THE MEMBERS. THE RESOLUTION CONVOKING THIS MEETING RECEIVED UNANIMOUS APPROVAL IN THE PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE OAS. IT PLACED BEFORE US THE IMPORTANT QUESTION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA. TEN YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE RESOLUTION I WAS ENACTED BY THE NINTH MEETING OF CONSULTATION OF THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. IT IS NATURAL THAT WE SHOULD REVIEW THAT DECISION.

WE RECOGNIZE THAT A MAJORITY NOW EXISTS FOR LIFTING SANCTIONS. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE ALSO RECALL THAT THE MEASURES CONTAINED IN RESOLUTION I WERE ADOPTED IN 1964 BY AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE OAS MEMBER STATES. SOME STATES HERE TODAY WERE, WITH GOOD REASON, AMONG THE MOST PERSUASIVE ADVOCATES OF SANCTIONS. FOR SOME OF US, EVIDENCE OF CUBAN HOSTILITY IS FRESH IN OUR MINDS. THOUGH TEN YEARS HAVE PASSED, THE STATES OF THE AMERICAS HAVE STILL RECEIVED NO CLEAR SATISFACTION THAT CUBA HAS ABANDONED THE EXPORT OF REVOLUTION.

WE HAVE ALSO TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT ANOTHER CONSIDERATION. IT IS OF THE ESSENCE OF THE NEW DIALOGUE NOT MERELY THAT WE CONSIDER THE MAJOR ISSUES CONFRONTING THIS HEMISPHERE, BUT THAT WE DO SO IN THE SPIRIT PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LARA OF OUR HOST COUNTRY ECUADOR SO WELL LAID BEFORE US FRIDAY, WHEN HE SAID THAT A FUNDAMENTAL PART OF OUR RESPONSIBILITY WAS TO

BEGIN INNER QUOTE OPENLY AND FREELY EXPRESS THE POSITION OF OUR COUNTRIES. --- WHILE AT THE SAME CONFIDENTIAL

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TIME SEEING THAT THE POSSIBLE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION THAT MAY ARISE IN NO WAY AFFECT THE INTER-AMERICAN SOLIDARITY THAT WE SEEK TO STRENGTHEN. END INNER QUOTE
WE HAVE CONSIDERED ALL THESE FACTORS IN COMING TO OUR DECISION TO ABSTAIN. BUT OUR ABSTENTION SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS A SIGN OF ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS VOTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS OWN

PERCEPTION OF THIS QUESTION AT THIS TIME. WE RESPECT THE VIEWS OF THE MAJORITY WHO HAVE VOTED FOR THIS RESOLUTION. WE HAVE NOT VOTED NO AND WE HAVE NOT WORKED AGAINST THE RESOLUTION. WE ALSO RESPECT THE VIEWS OF THOSE WHO ENTERTAIN SUCH SERIOUS RESERVATIONS WITH RESPECT TO CUBA AND WHO THEREFORE HAVE FELT IT NECESSARY TO VOTE AGAINST.

IF THIS MEETING OF CONSULTATION HAS NOT PRODUCED A CONCLUSIVE RESULT, IT HAS AT LEAST AIRED IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO EASY SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF A COUNTRY WHICH DEALS WITH SOME ON THE BASIS OF HOSTILITY AND WITH OTHERS ON THE BASIS OF A MORE NORMAL RELATIONSHIP. I SHOULD ADD THAT THE UNITED STATES LOOKS FORWARD TO THE DAY WHEN THE CUBAN ISSUE IS NO LONGER A DIVISIVE ISSUE FOR US. CUBA HAS ABSORBED FAR TOO MUCH OF OUR ATTENTION IN RECENT YEARS. WE NEED TO TURN OUR ENERGIES TO THE MORE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS. WE MUST NOT LET A FAILURE OF AGREEMENT ON THE CUBAN ISSUE, AT THIS TIME, TO OBSCURE OUR COMMON INTEREST IN WORKING TOGETHER TOWARD MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIPS ON THE MAJOR ISSUES OF THIS DECADE.

FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR, TO PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ LARA,
AND TO FOREIGN MINISTER LUCIO PAREDES, FOR ACTING AS
HOSTS OF THIS IMPORTANT INTER-AMERICAN MEETING. WE ARE
FORTUNATE TO HAVE SUCH AN ABLE AND EXPERIENCED CHAIRMAN
IN FOREIGN MINISTER LUCIO PAREDES. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR
EXCELLENT PREPARATIONS AND HOSPITALITY. YOUR HIGH SENSE
OF RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM SHOULD
BE AN EXAMPLE TO US ALL. END QUOTE
INGERSOLL

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Subject: PROPOSED INGERSOLL EXPLANATION OF VOTE FOR QUITO BEGIN QUOTE MR. CHAIRMAN, DISTINGUISHED FOREIGN

MINISTERS AND TAGS: OCON, OAS
To: BELGRADE MULTIPLE

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